

HINE 119
11:00-11:50 M,W, F
CENTR 109
Fall 2009

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Office Hours: W 1:00-3:00

U.S.MIDDLE EASTERN POLICY AFTER WWII

Course Description

American impressions of the Middle East often focus on conflict. And yet, Middle Eastern wars of the later 20th century have been far less destructive than Europe's 20th century wars. Most Middle Eastern conflicts have been proxy wars and many were part of the US-USSR Cold War. The east-west lines of the Cold War are familiar; it divided Europe and in some cases divided single countries. But what did the Cold War mean in the Third World? How did it play out in the Middle East, and how did it shape the histories of that region and its peoples? How much did policies formed in Washington and Moscow determine the range of possible options for the people and leaders of smaller countries? Did Middle Eastern countries harness the superpower Cold War to their own concerns and regional conflicts, or were they merely superpower pawns? Finally what are the legacies of the Cold War in the region today?

This course will not definitively answer these questions. We will, however, keep such questions in mind, because they will help us to transcend the easy generalizations and stereotypes that often impede our understanding of this region and its peoples. The class is suitable for students with no prior coursework on the region and its history, though some prior knowledge would be helpful.

The course is divided into two parts. The first part covers the years between post-World War II independence and the 1967 war, and the second part covers developments since 1967.

Required books (available at the bookstore, and on reserve at SSH.)

William Cleveland, *A History of the Modern Middle East*, 2nd or 3rd edition, ISBN 0-8133-3489-6

Charles D. Smith, *Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict*, St. Martins, 5th edition, ISBN 0-312-40408-5

Avi Shlaim, *The Iron Wall: Israel and the Arab World*, Norton, ISBN 0-393-32112-6

Tim Weiner, *Legacy of Ashes: The History of the CIA*, Anchor, ISBN 0-307-38900-8

Course Structure and Requirements

The class will meet three days a week and regular attendance is required.

Assignments

There will be a mid-term examination and a final examination.

Grades are as follows:

Mid-term examination 35%

Final examination 65%

Important Dates

30 October
8 December, 11:30-2:30

Mid-Term Exam
Final Exam

CLASS SCHEDULE AND READINGS

Introduction

September 25 Introduction.

Week 1

September 28 Geography and Definitions.

September 30 Ottoman rule, WWI, and the post-war settlement
Cleveland, ch. 8-9, Charles Smith, *Palestine and the Arab-Israeli Conflict*, ch. 2-3.

October 2 Discussion.

Week 2

October 5 Colonial Rule in the Middle East.

October 7 World War and Independence.
Cleveland, ch. 10,11,12, Smith, ch. 4.

October 9 Discussion.

Week 3 1. Independence and Conflict

October 12 The Birth of Israel and the Aftermath of the 48 War.

October 14 Social Upheaval and the End of the Politics of Notables.
Cleveland, ch.13, Avi Shlaim, *The Iron Wall*, xiiv-53, Smith, ch. 5.

October 16 Discussion.

Week 4

October 19 The Ascension of the United States and the Eisenhower Doctrine.

October 21 Nationalism and the Great Powers: Muşaddiq, Iran, and the CIA.
Cleveland, ch. 14, Weiner, xvii-54,77-105, Shlaim, 54-94, Smith, ch. 6.

October 23 Discussion. Handout: Exam Questions

Week 5

- October 26 The Rise of Gamal 'Abd al-Nasser and the Suez Crisis.
 October 28 The Baghdad Pact and Cold War Maneuvering in the Middle East.
 Cleveland, ch. 15-16, Smith, ch. 7, Shlaim, 95-217, Weiner 141-163.
 October 30 **Midterm.**

Week 6

- 2. The Middle East Since 1967.**
 November 2 The 1967 War and its immediate aftermath.
 November 4 Black September, Nasser's death, and the Rise of Hâfîz al-Asad
 Cleveland, ch. 17, Smith, ch. 8, Shlaim, 218-283, Weiner, 311-333.
 November 6 Discussion.

Week 7

- November 9 Sadat, the expulsion of the USSR, and the 73 War.
 November 11 **Veteran's Day Holiday**
 November 13 The PLO in Lebanon and the Lebanese Civil War.
 Cleveland, ch. 18-19, Smith, ch. 8, Weiner, 373-387, Shlaim, 284-324.

Week 8

- November 16 The Iranian Revolution and Cold War Confrontation in Central Asia.
 November 18 The Israeli Invasion of Lebanon and the US Role.
 Cleveland, ch. 20-21, Weiner, 413-4917, Smith, ch. 9, Shlaim, 377-423
 November 20 Discussion.

Week 9

- November 23 Gulf Wars of the 1980s and 90s.
 November 25 The First Intifâda and Peace Negotiations.
 Cleveland, ch. 22-23, Weiner, 491-503, Smith, ch. 10-11, Shlaim, 502-63
 November 27 **Thanksgiving Holiday**

Week 10

- November 30 The Passing of the Old Guard and the End of Peace Negotiations
 December 2 Neo-Imperialism and America in Iraq, 2003-
 December 4 Conclusions and Prospects. Final Exam handout.
 Cleveland, Epilogue ch. 24-25, Smith, 12 (final pages),

FINAL EXAM: Tuesday, 8 December 11:30-2:30